



# "The American West"

The Corcoran Gallery of Art/March 25-April 26, 1981

SELECTIONS FROM THE ANSCHUTZ COLLECTION  
AND THE CORCORAN COLLECTION

## The Corcoran Gallery

When Thomas Moran first showed his paintings of the Yellowstone to Eastern audiences he found that many people could not really believe what they were looking at. How could anyone paint rocks that were blue and red and yellow, or depict landscapes so grand that they competed with sunrises for the viewer's attention? Surely, these paintings were visions, people said, inventions of Mr. Moran's creative mind.

But no, the artistic discovery of the American West expanded the visual vocabulary of everyone. Although the tall mountains, broad plains, incredible colors, strange Indian customs, and life-styles of pioneer settlers simply did not fit into the lexicon of images from our European tradition, two forces made them art. The first was the incessant search for a national identity, and the second was America's passion for novelty. The West was uniquely American and it proved to be an almost endless treasure trove of new discoveries. Thus, paintings of the West became both symbols for the nation as a whole as well as artistic probes into the depth and variety of experiences which the nation offered.

Traditionally, the West in art has meant the lore which was popularized in the dime novels of the second half of the nineteenth century and the motion pictures of our own day. In this exhibition, however, the definition is broader. Some of the paintings go beyond the cowboy and Indian scenes to include

"modern" western cities as well as abstractions derived from western views. In addition, since the West as a place of pioneer settlement was continually redefined, a few views of pioneer areas in what we now think of as the eastern section of the country are also included. This living definition has brought a greater sense of liveliness and variety to a subject which is already rich in diversity.

The Trustees of the Corcoran Gallery of Art collected American paintings long before most other patrons would even take a second look. Naturally, Western paintings and sculptures were among the acquisitions and, as a result, the Corcoran owns a small but splendid sampling of Western art. This includes four of Albert Bierstadt's works, one of which depicts a lofty peak south of Mt. Whitney in the Sierra Nevada range with the title *Mount Corcoran!*

It is a pleasure for the Trustees to welcome paintings from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Anschutz to the museum. Joined in this exhibition by works from the Corcoran, we have a meld of a private collector and a private gallery of art. In addition, the Trustees deeply appreciate Mr. Anschutz's generosity in making *The American West* possible at this time.

For all new discoverers of our national heritage, this show will be a surprise; and for those who may have forgotten the West, a second look should bring back that pleasant feeling of wonder.

Peter C. Marzio  
Director  
Corcoran Gallery and School of Art



INDIAN WARRIOR  
Phimister Proctor

*On the Cover:*  
RETURN OF A BLACKFOOT WAR PARTY  
Frederic Remington

## The Anschutz Collection

I am pleased to have been invited to exhibit a selection of paintings from the Anschutz Collection at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. This private institution, founded in 1869, is the oldest fine arts museum in Washington, D.C. It is a tribute to William Corcoran that he had the foresight to enthusiastically collect American art when the collecting emphasis of his contemporaries was on European Academic painting. Over the years, the Corcoran Gallery has hosted many major loan exhibitions. the Anschutz collection takes great pride in joining this distinguished company.

I have always loved western history and this interest has translated itself into portraits, landscapes and genre paintings of the American West. I believe that it is important to emphasize the significance of the West throughout the years of exploration and development—years of excitement, vitality, and imagination. It is equally important to note that in the

process of documenting this westward expansion, the artists involved in this experience created a unique situation in which the development of American art was simultaneously documented.

The painters who accompanied the first explorers in the earliest years of the last century found their greatest market to be not only New York, Boston, Washington, and Philadelphia but also the major cities of Europe. People from both continents were hungry for news and pictures from the American western frontier.

The Hudson River School painters were drawn to the West where they painted small, controlled landscapes. Again, their greatest market was found in the cities of the East and in Europe. The Romantics painted monumental canvases—craggy mountains with swirling clouds above were their milieu. These paintings received accolades in the most important museums and galleries of the time.

The closing years of the nineteenth century brought the illustrators who drew the deeds of the cowboy hero

—sometimes larger than life—for the readers of *Collier's*, *Harper's Weekly* and *Saturday Evening Post*. The studies made for these illustrations and the major oils executed by these artists commanded high prices even during the artists' lifetime.

The early part of the twentieth century saw the flowering of possibly the most important movement in Western American art, the Taos-Santa Fe School of painting. These small New Mexico villages were like magnets to Eastern artists with world reputations who came here to execute more scholarly, more sophisticated paintings than their predecessors. They came to this dusty, sparsely populated, barren land because the subjects were "new" and the light was unsurpassed. The uncomplicated life-style these artists found in the Southwest allowed them to concentrate on their art and to enjoy the comradeship of fellow artists. The Taos-Santa Fe School flourished until the beginning of World War II and some artists, such as Georgia O'Keeffe, have remained to the present day.

I have attempted to gather good examples of each

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artist's work and, thus, to put together a comprehensive survey collection which reflects well more than a century of Western history and art as seen through the eyes of the artist. The styles and media differ, but, to the viewer, the message is still the same: the West is a beautiful, vigorous, still untamed land whose spirit of adventure speaks to all. Unquestionably, the course of American art has been altered by its "Western experience."

Philip F. Anschutz

CHILDREN OF THE MOUNTAIN  
Thomas Moran

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**1. George CATLIN (1794-1872)**  
*Mystery Lodge*  
oil on canvas  
23 x 28 inches (58.4 x 71.1 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

**2. Asher B. DURAND (1796-1886)**  
*Indian Rescue*  
oil on canvas  
45 x 36 inches (114.3 x 91.5 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

BULL DANCE  
George Catlin

- 3. Alfred Jacob MILLER  
(1810-1874)**  
*The Buffalo Hunt*  
oil on canvas  
30 x 50 inches (76.2 x 127 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 4. William Tylee RANNEY  
(1813-1857)**  
*Prairie Burial*  
oil on canvas  
14 x 20 inches (35.5 x 50.8 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 5. Albertus del Orient BROWERE  
(1814-1887)**  
*Goldminers*  
oil on canvas  
29 x 36 inches (73.7 x 91.5 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 6. John Mix STANLEY (1814-1872)**  
*The Disputed Shot*  
oil on canvas  
36 x 29 inches (91.4 x 73.6 cm.)  
Gift of William Wilson  
Corcoran  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**7. Arthur Fitzwilliam TAIT  
(1819-1905)**

*On the Warpath*

oil on canvas

33 x 44 inches

(83.8 x 111.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**8. James WALKER (1819-1889)**

*California Vaqueros*

oil on canvas

31 x 46 inches

(78.7 x 116.8 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**9. George Douglass BREWERTON  
(1820-1901)**

*Crossing the Rocky Mountains*

oil on canvas

30 x 44½ inches

(76.2 x 112.2 cm.)

Gift of William Wilson

Corcoran

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**10. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)**

*The Buffalo Trail: Impending Storm*

oil on canvas

29½ x 49½ inches

(74.8 x 125.6 cm.)

Through a gift of Mr. and Mrs.  
Lansdell K. Christie

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**11. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)**

*Mountainous Landscape by Moonlight*

oil on canvas

30 1/3 x 50 1/3 inches

(77 x 127.8 cm.)

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harry L.  
Tepper

Corcoran Gallery of Art



MOUNT CORCORAN  
Albert Bierstadt



THE DISPUTED SHOT  
John Mix Stanley

**12. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)**

Mount Corcoran  
61 x 96 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches  
(154.9 x 224.3 cm.)  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**13. Albert BIERSTADT (1830-1902)**

*The Last of the Buffalo*  
71 $\frac{1}{4}$  x 119 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches  
(181 x 303.2 cm.)  
Gift of Mrs. Albert Bierstadt  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**14. Samuel COLMAN (1832-1920)**

Half Dome and Royal Arches,  
Yosemite from Glacier Point  
watercolor  
9 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 13 $\frac{3}{8}$  inches (24.1 x 34 cm.)  
Through a gift of Ralph C.  
Johnson  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**15. Louis MAURER (1832-1932)**

Buffalo Bill Fighting Indians  
oil on canvas  
27 x 36 inches (68.5 x 91.4 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

**16. Thomas MORAN (1837-1926)**

*Children of the Mountain*

oil on canvas

62 x 55 inches (158 x 132.5 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**17. Ralph Albert BLAKELOCK**

(1847-1919)

*Indian Encampment*

oil on canvas

19 x 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches

(48.3 x 66.9 cm.)

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. J. C.

Stotlar

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**18. Carl William HAHN**

(1840-1890/1)

*California Stage Halt, 1875*

oil on canvas

28 x 40 inches

(71.1 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection



OFF THE RANGE

Frederic Remington

- 19. Lucian POWELL (1846-1930)**  
*Afterglow, Grand Canyon,  
Arizona*  
watercolor  
20 x 30 inches (50.8 x 76.2 cm.)  
Corcoran Gallery of Art



TAOS PLAZA,  
WINTER 1921  
E. Martin Hennings

- 20. Henry FARNY (1847-1916)**  
*The Indian Bear Hunter*  
gouache and watercolor  
10½ x 6 inches (26 x 15.2 cm.)  
Gift of Hamilton Robinson  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

- 21. Henry FARNY (1847-1916)**  
*Indian Encampment*  
gouache  
9½ x 14 inches  
(24.1 x 35.5 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

- 22. Chester LOOMIS (1852-1924)**  
*Antelope Hunters, Texas*  
oil on canvas  
23 x 37 inches (58.4 x 94 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

- 23. Joseph Henry SHARP  
(1859-1953)**  
*Winter Encampment  
on the Plains*  
oil on canvas  
24 x 36 inches (61 x 91.4 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

- 24. Frederic REMINGTON  
(1861-1924)**  
*Return of a Blackfoot  
War Party*  
oil on canvas  
28 x 50 inches (71.1 x 127 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

CHAMA RUNNING RED  
John Sloan

**25. Frederic REMINGTON**

(1861-1924)

*Turn Him Loose, Bill!*

oil on canvas

25 x 33 inches (63.5 x 83.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**26. Frederic REMINGTON**

(1861-1924)

*Off the Range* (formerly

*Coming through the Rye*)

bronze

28 x 20 x 28 inches

(71 x 50.8 x 71 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**27. Frederic REMINGTON**

(1861-1924)

*Mountain Man*

bronze

28 inches (71 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art



**28. Charles SCHREYVOGEL**

(1861-1912)

*A Sharp Encounter*

oil on canvas

25 x 34 inches (63.5 x 86.3 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**29. Charles SCHREYVOGEL**

(1861-1912)

*The Attackers*

oil on canvas

25 x 34 inches (63.5 x 86.3 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**30. Phimister PROCTOR**

(1862-1950)

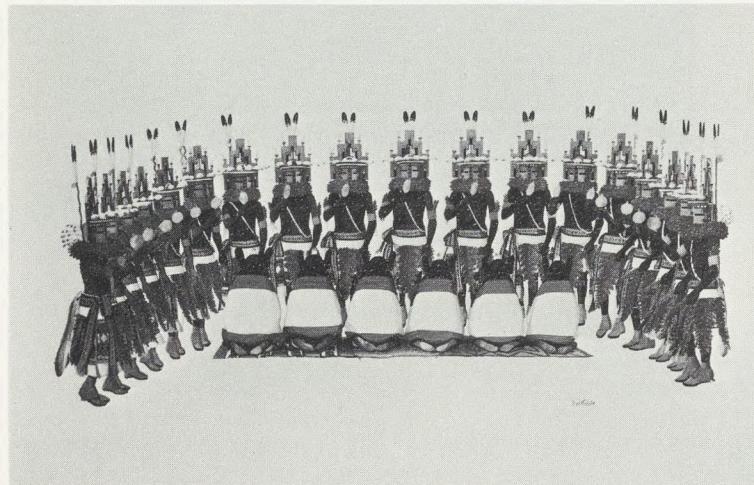
*Indian and Buffalo Group*

bronze

18½ x 10 x 28½ inches

(47.1 x 25.4 x 72.3 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art



**31. Phimister PROCTOR**

(1862-1950)

*Indian Warrior*

bronze

40 x 11 x 20 inches

(101.6 x 27.9 x 50.8 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**32. Charles Marion RUSSELL**

(1864-1926)

*The Scouts*

oil on canvas

24 x 36 inches (60.9 x 91.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**33. E. Irving COUSE (1866-1936)**

*Moki Snake Dance*

oil on canvas

36 x 48 inches

(91.4 x 121.7 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**34. Albert L. GROLL (1866-1952)**

*No-Man's Land, Arizona*

oil on canvas

40½ x 51¼ inches

(102.8 x 130.2 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

HOPI MASKED DANCE

Fred Kabotie

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TURN HIM LOOSE, BILL!  
Frederic Remington

**35. Herman Atkins MACNEIL**

**(1866-1947)**

*The Sun Vow*

bronze

71 x 28 $\frac{1}{8}$  x 32 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches

(271.7 x 71.3 x 82.8 cm.)

Corcoran Gallery of Art

**36. John MARIN (1870-1953)**

*Canyon of the Hondo,*

New Mexico

watercolor

15 x 20 inches (38.1 x 50.8 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**37. Joseph A. IMHOF (1871-1951)**

*The Camoufleurs*

oil on canvas

31 x 47 inches

(78.8 x 109.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection



**38. John SLOAN (1871-1951)**

*Chama Running Red*

oil on canvas

30 x 40 inches

(76.2 x 101.6 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

**39. Ernest L. BLUMENSCHINE**

**(1874-1960)**

*Sangre de Cristo Mountains*

oil on canvas

50 x 60 inches (127 x 152.4 cm.)

Anschutz Collection

- 40. Frank Tenney JOHNSON  
(1874-1939)**  
*Riders of the Dawn*  
oil on canvas  
48 x 60 inches  
(121.9 x 152.4 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 41. Frank Tenney JOHNSON  
(1874-1939)**  
*Night at the Trading Post*  
oil on canvas  
36 x 46 inches  
(76.2 x 106.9 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 42. Walter UFER (1876-1936)**  
*Oferta para San Esquipula*  
oil on canvas  
25 x 30 inches (63.5 x 76.2 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 43. Marsden HARTLEY (1877-1943)**  
*New Mexico Recollections, #15*  
oil on canvas  
23 x 41 inches  
(58.4 x 104.1 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 44. B. J. O. NORDFELT (1878-1955)**  
*Corn Dance, San Ildefonse*  
oil on canvas  
34 x 43 inches  
(86.4 x 109.2 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 45. George BELLOWS (1882-1925)**  
*Sanctuario*  
oil on board  
20 x 24 inches (50.8 x 60.9 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 46. Newell Convers WYETH  
(1882-1945)**  
*Blue Lock, the Queen*  
oil on canvas  
32 x 40 inches  
(81.2 x 101.6 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 47. Victor HIGGINS (1884-1949)**  
*Taos Pueblo*  
oil on canvas  
52 x 56 inches  
(132 x 142.2 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 48. Leon KROLL (1884-1974)**  
*Santa Fe Hills*  
oil on canvas  
26 x 32 inches (66 x 81.3 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 49. Paul MANSHIP (1885-1966)**  
*Indian Running with Dog*  
bronze  
21 $\frac{5}{8}$  x 32 $\frac{1}{8}$  x 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches  
(54.8 x 81.6 x 19.6 cm.)  
Bequest of James Parmelee  
Corcoran Gallery of Art
- 50. E. Martin HENNINGS  
(1886-1956)**  
*Taos Plaza, Winter 1921*  
oil on canvas  
34 x 40 inches  
(86.3 x 101.6 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection
- 51. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)**  
*Red Hills, Grey Sky*  
oil on canvas  
14 x 20 inches (35.6 x 50.8 cm.)  
Anschutz Collection

**52. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)**

*Another Church, Hernandez,  
New Mexico*  
oil on canvas  
10 x 24 inches (25.3 x 60.8 cm.)  
Anschtz Collection

**53. Georgia O'KEEFFE (b. 1887)**

*Wall with Green Door*  
oil on canvas  
30 x 47 $\frac{1}{8}$  inches  
(76.2 x 121.5 cm.)  
Gift of the Woodward  
Foundation  
Corcoran  
Gallery of Art

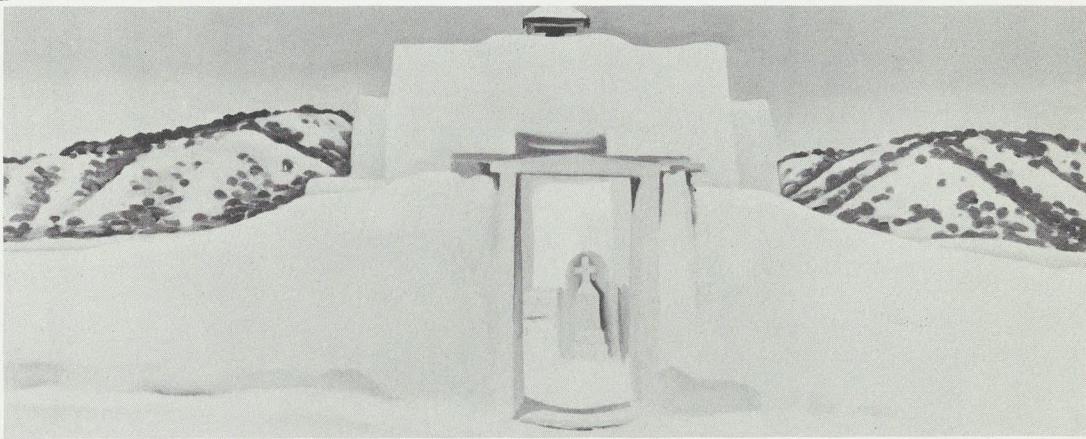
**54. Fred KABOTIE (b. 1900)**

*Hopi Masked Dance*  
gouache  
19 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 30 inches  
(49.6 x 76.2 cm.)  
Gift of Miss Amelia Elizabeth  
White  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

**55. MA PE WI (1902-1973)**

*Deer Hunters*  
gouache  
15 x 20 inches (38.1 x 50.8 cm.)  
Gift of Miss Amelia Elizabeth  
White  
Corcoran Gallery of Art

ANOTHER CHURCH,  
HERNANDEZ,  
NEW MEXICO  
Georgia O'Keeffe





THE LAST OF THE BUFFALO  
Albert Bierstadt

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